

# Nebraska Agri-Facts Special Edition

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## Nebraska Agriculture

This report highlights the importance of agriculture to Nebraska. In 2002, the State's 52,000 farms and ranches utilized 46.4 million acres or about 94 percent of the State's total land area. Agriculture is Nebraska's primary source of wealth and its dominant industry. Approximately one-fourth of Nebraska workers depend on agriculture and the many related industries involved in all phases of the food and fiber chain from production to marketing for their employment.

The Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service compiled this report as a service to the public, foreign interests looking to buy Nebraska products, and the many farmers, ranchers and agricultural service firms who voluntarily provide survey data to make reliable agricultural estimates possible. Crop and livestock reports date back to the beginning of this country. The National agency issued the first official monthly crop report in 1863. These statistics reports continue to inform both buyers and sellers, helping to keep agricultural markets updated, stable, and efficient - and help to maintain a "level playing field" for all.

We hope this report will be useful and answer many questions about Nebraska agriculture. If more information is needed, please contact us at the address shown above.

## Water Resources

Nebraska is a water-rich State. Underneath over half of its 49-million-acre land surface, in porous rock beds called aquifers, is stored about 2 billion acre-feet of good quality groundwater, most of which is readily accessible. Add to that an average of 80 to 100 million acre-feet of annual precipitation and an annual surface-water inflow of roughly 2 million acre-feet to obtain a measure of available water. In terms of surface water, approximately 7 to 8 million acre-feet flows on to other States, making Nebraska a donor of approximately 5 to 6 million acre-feet more than flows into its borders. Groundwater irrigation began in the 1920's. At the beginning of 1975, nearly 46,000 registered irrigation wells and about 5,000 surface water rights supplied 4 million acres. Currently, 84,061 registered wells and some 8,000 surface water rights supply water to about 8,175,000 million acres of crop and pastureland.

## Soil Resources

Nebraska soils are a product of interaction of climate and biological organisms on parent materials as modified by local topography, drainage, and exposure to weathering. Two types of geologic deposits are parent materials for the vast majority of soils in the State. Wind-blown sand is the parent material in the Sandhills grazing region that occupies much of the north-central part of the State. Elsewhere, most soils have formed in wind-blown silt and clay or loess. Topography and subsequent soil drainage have greatly influenced development of soil properties in local areas.

## Nebraska Farms and Ranches and Land in Farms

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farms
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
1960	93,000	48,200	518
1970	73,000	48,100	659
1980	65,000	47,700	734
1990	57,000	47,100	826
1994	56,000	46,500	830
1995	56,000	46,400	829
1996	56,000	46,400	829
1997	55,000	46,400	844
1998	55,000	46,400	844
1999	55,000	46,400	844
2000	54,000	46,400	859
2001	53,000	46,400	875
2002	52,000	46,400	892

## Agro Climatic Resources

Nebraska is located in the mid-section of the United States (latitude 40°N-43°N; longitude 96°W-104°W). Hot summers and cold winters, variability in rainfall distribution, fluctuating length of growing season, and frequent winds typify Nebraska's climate and each has affected agricultural production decisions and resource distribution over the years. Average "precipitation" during the last decade ranged from slightly over 33 inches in the southeast to slightly over 18 inches in the west. About 75 percent of the precipitation falls as rain during April - September, the crop growing season. Average growing season ranges from 170 days in the southeast to 120 days in the extreme northwest. The southeast is about 1,000 feet above sea level, while the Panhandle has elevations of 4,000 - 5,400 feet. "Irrigation," currently at 8,175,000 acres, provides a buffer against drought, a serious recurrent problem for the Great Plains. A careful selection of adaptable crops, improved varieties, use of strip and contour cropping, stubble mulching, deferred grazing and other proven practices enable Nebraska farmers to cope with climatic uncertainty and supply domestic and international markets with top quality products.

## Land Uses

Nebraska's 46.4 million acres in farms and ranches is divided between cropland and other land used primarily for pastures and rangeland to support the State's livestock industry. In 2002, the area planted to crops and used for hay totaled 19.1 million acres. Active participation in government acreage reduction programs has reduced planted acreages in some years. Comparable area planted estimates for 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 were 19.0, 19.3, 19.2 and 19.3 million acres, respectively.

Corn, soybeans, winter wheat and sorghum are the State's leading crops, utilizing 15.2 million acres of cropland in 2002. Corn and winter wheat are grown essentially Statewide, while most soybeans are produced in the eastern one-half of Nebraska. Primary sorghum producing counties lie in the southeastern one-third of the State. The specialty crops of dry edible beans and sugarbeets are produced in western irrigated fields. Sandhill pastures of north central Nebraska produce much of the State's wild hay production and maintain many cow/calf operations.



## Nebraska Crop Summary, Selected Years and 2002, Domestic Units

Year	Planted <sup>1</sup>	Harvested	Yield	Production
<b>Corn for Grain</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	7,800	7,100	85.0	603,500
1985	7,800	7,450	128.0	953,600
1990	7,700	7,300	128.0	934,400
1995	8,000	7,700	111.0	854,700
1999	8,600	8,300	139.0	1,153,700
2000	8,500	8,050	126.0	1,014,300
2001	8,100	7,750	*147.0	1,139,250
2002	8,400	7,350	128.0	940,800
<b>Soybeans</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	1,830	1,770	30.0	53,100
1985	2,400	2,360	36.0	84,960
1990	2,400	2,360	34.5	81,420
1995	3,100	3,060	33.0	100,980
1999	4,300	4,250	42.5	180,625
2000	4,650	4,575	38.0	173,850
2001	*4,950	*4,900	45.5	*222,950
2002	4,700	4,580	38.5	176,330
<b>All Wheat</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	3,000	2,850	38.0	108,300
1985	2,600	2,300	39.0	89,700
1990	2,450	2,250	38.0	85,500
1995	2,150	2,100	41.0	86,100
1999	1,900	1,700	*48.0	81,600
2000	1,750	1,650	36.0	59,400
2001	1,750	1,600	37.0	59,200
2002	1,650	1,520	32.0	48,640
<b>Sorghum for Grain</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	2,200	2,030	60.0	121,800
1985	2,100	1,930	80.0	154,400
1990	1,600	1,410	77.0	108,570
1995	1,250	980	58.0	56,840
1999	550	470	91.0	42,770
2000	600	500	70.0	35,000
2001	550	425	84.0	35,700
2002	450	300	50.0	15,000
<b>All Hay</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980		3,700	1.91	7,083
1985		3,300	2.05	6,755
1990		3,650	1.97	7,205
1995		3,150	2.29	7,200
1999		3,200	*2.41	7,700
2000		3,050	1.99	6,055
2001		3,250	2.33	7,578
2002		3,250	1.83	5,950
<b>Alfalfa Hay</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980		1,650	3.05	5,033
1985		1,400	3.40	4,760
1990		1,450	3.30	4,785
1995		1,350	3.60	4,860
1999		1,400	3.70	5,180
2000		1,350	3.10	4,185
2001		1,450	3.55	5,148
2002		1,350	3.00	4,050
<b>Wild Hay</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980		1,750	.90	1,575
1985		1,550	.88	1,365
1990		1,600	.92	1,472
1995		1,500	1.19	1,785
1998		1,500	1.15	1,725
1999		1,500	*1.27	1,905
2000		1,405	1.03	1,442
2001		1,430	1.17	1,670

<sup>1</sup> Planted for all purposes. \* Record high.

Year	Planted <sup>1</sup>	Harvested	Yield	Production
<b>Irrigated Corn for Grain</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980		4,950	101.0	499,950
1985		5,050	141.5	714,800
1990		5,050	145.5	734,775
1995	5,283	5,125	130.1	666,725
1999	4,952	4,800	159.4	765,200
2000	4,975	4,800	154.4	741,300
2001	4,730	4,550	*173.0	787,250
2002	4,850	4,650	166.9	776,100
<b>Dry Edible Beans</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>
1980	160	150	1,820	2,730
1985	165	151	1,850	2,794
1990	*260	*254	1,970	*5,004
1995	225	205	1,750	3,588
1999	210	187	2,000	3,740
2000	165	156	2,070	3,230
2001	160	148	*2,150	3,185
2002	185	165	2,100	3,465
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1980	87.0	85.0	20.9	1,777
1985	59.1	53.2	23.1	1,229
1990	75.1	71.0	21.0	1,491
1995	75.9	72.3	16.4	1,186
1999	72.7	66.2	19.0	1,258
2000	78.2	54.8	20.3	1,112
2001	48.6	41.4	20.3	840
2002	57.0	42.0	18.1	760
<b>Oats</b>				
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1980	525	380	41.0	15,580
1985	550	420	61.0	25,620
1990	450	280	48.0	13,440
1995	155	90	50.0	4,500
1999	135	75	62.0	4,650
2000	130	45	42.0	1,890
2001	155	60	61.0	3,660
2002	175	55	43.0	2,365

Source: USDA NASS Crop Production 2002 Summary, January 2003.

### Crops Record Highs Through 2002

Crops	Year	Record High
Corn	Harvested 1932	10,005,000 Acres
for	Yield 2001	147.0 Bushels
Grain	Production 1998	1,239,750,000 Bushels
Soybeans	Harvested 2001	4,900,000 Acres
	Yield 1994	47.0 Bushels
	Production 2001	222,950,000 Bushels
All Wheat	Harvested 1938	4,691,000 Acres
	Yield 1999	48.0 Bushels
	Production 1958	113,488,000 Bushels
Sorghum	Harvested 1965	2,271,000 Acres
for	Yield 1994	98.0 Bushels
Grain	Production 1981	164,800,000 Bushels
All Hay	Harvested 1954	5,595,000 Acres
	Yield 1999	2.41 Tons
	Production 1982	7,855,000 Tons

### Nebraska's Rank Among States in 2002

Rank	Commodity	Number	Unit
1	Great northern bean production	1,286,000	Cwt.
2	Pinto beans production	1,709,000	Cwt.
4	Corn for grain production	940,800,000	Bushels
4	On-farm grain storage capacity	970,000,000	Bushels
4	Off-farm grain storage capacity	690,405,000	Bushels
5	Sorghum for grain production	15,000,000	Bushels
5	Soybean production	176,330,000	Bushels
6	Alfalfa hay production	4,050,000	Tons
6	All hay production	5,950,000	Tons
7	Winter wheat production	48,640,000	Bushels
8	Sugarbeet production	760,000	Tons
8	Crops cash receipts, 2001	3,402,349,000	Dollars

## Nebraska Crop Summary, Selected Years and 2002, Metric Units

Year	Planted <sup>1</sup>	Harvested	Yield	Production
Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	3,157	2,873	5.34	15,330
1985	3,157	3,015	8.03	24,222
1990	3,116	2,954	8.03	23,735
1995	3,238	3,116	6.97	21,710
1999	3,480	3,359	8.72	29,305
2000	3,440	3,258	7.91	25,764
2001	3,278	3,136	*9.23	28,938
2002	3,399	2,975	8.03	23,897

Soybeans				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	741	716	2.02	1,445
1985	971	955	2.42	2,312
1990	971	955	2.32	2,216
1995	1,255	1,238	2.22	2,748
1999	1,740	1,720	2.86	4,916
2000	1,882	1,851	2.56	4,732
2001	*2,003	*1,983	3.06	*6,068
2001	1,902	1,854	2.59	4,799

All Wheat				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	1,214	1,153	2.56	2,947
1985	1,052	931	2.62	2,441
1990	992	911	2.56	2,327
1995	870	850	2.76	2,343
1999	769	688	*3.23	2,221
2000	708	668	2.42	1,617
2001	708	648	2.49	1,611
2002	668	615	2.15	1,324

Sorghum for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	890	822	3.77	3,094
1985	850	781	5.02	3,922
1990	648	571	4.83	2,758
1995	506	397	3.64	1,444
1999	223	190	5.71	1,086
2000	243	202	4.39	889
2001	223	172	5.27	907
2002	182	121	3.14	381

Alfalfa Hay				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980		1,497	4.29	6,426
1985		1,335	4.59	6,128
1990		1,477	4.42	6,536
1995		1,275	5.12	6,532
1999		1,295	*5.39	6,985
2000		1,234	4.45	5,493
2001		1,315	5.23	6,875
2001		1,315	4.10	5,398

Alfalfa Hay				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980		668	6.84	4,566
1985		567	7.62	4,318
1990		587	7.40	4,341
1995		546	8.07	4,409
1999		567	8.29	4,699
2000		546	6.95	3,797
2001		587	7.96	4,670
2002		546	6.72	3,674

Wild Hay				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980		708	2.02	1,429
1985		627	1.97	1,238
1990		648	2.06	1,335
1995		607	2.67	1,619
1998		607	2.58	1,565
1999		607	*2.85	1,728
2000		569	2.30	1,308
2001		579	2.62	1,515

Year	Planted <sup>1</sup>	Harvested	Yield	Production
Irrigated Corn for Grain				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980		2,003	6.34	12,699
1985		2,044	8.88	18,157
1990		2,044	9.13	18,664
1995	2,138	2,074	8.17	16,935
1999	2,004	1,943	10.01	19,437
2000	2,013	1,943	9.69	18,830
2001	1,914	1,841	*10.86	19,997
2002	1,963	1,882	10.48	19,714

Dry Edible Beans				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	65	61	2.04	124
1985	67	61	2.08	127
1990	*105	*103	2.21	*227
1995	91	83	1.96	163
1999	85	76	2.24	170
2000	67	63	2.32	147
2001	65	60	*2.41	145
2002	75	67	2.36	157

Sugarbeets				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	35.2	34.4	46.86	1,612
1985	23.9	21.5	51.79	1,115
1990	30.4	28.7	47.07	1,353
1995	30.7	29.3	36.77	1,076
1999	29.4	26.8	42.60	1,141
2000	31.6	22.2	45.49	1,009
2001	19.7	16.8	45.48	762
2002	23.1	17.0	40.56	689

Oats				
	<i>1,000 Hectares</i>		<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Metric Tons</i>
1980	212	154	1.47	226
1985	223	170	2.19	372
1990	182	113	1.72	195
1995	63	36	1.79	65
1999	55	30	2.22	67
2000	53	18	1.51	27
2001	63	24	2.19	53
2002	71	22	1.54	34

Crops Record Highs Through 2002				
Crops		Year	Record High	
Corn	Harvested	1932	4,049,000	Hectares
	Yield	2001	9.23	Metric Tons
	Production	1998	31,491,000	Metric Tons
Soybeans	Harvested	2001	1,983,000	Hectares
	Yield	1994	3.16	Metric Tons
	Production	2001	6,068,000	Metric Tons
All Wheat	Harvested	1938	1,898,000	Hectares
	Yield	1999	3.23	Metric Tons
	Production	1958	3,087,000	Metric Tons
Sorghum	Harvested	1965	919,000	Hectares
	Yield	1994	6.15	Metric Tons
	Production	1981	4,186,000	Metric Tons
All Hay	Harvested	1954	2,264,000	Hectares
	Yield	1999	5.39	Metric Tons
	Production	1982	7,126,000	Metric Tons

Nebraska's Rank Among States in 2002				
Rank	Commodity	Number	Unit	
1	Great northern bean production	58,000	Metric Tons	
2	Pinto beans production	78,000	Metric Tons	
4	Corn for grain production	23,897	Metric Tons	
4	On-farm grain storage capacity	24,639	Metric Tons	
4	Off-farm grain storage capacity	17,537	Metric Tons	
5	Sorghum for grain production	381,000	Metric Tons	
5	Soybean production	4,799,000	Metric Tons	
6	Alfalfa hay production	3,674,000	Metric Tons	
6	All hay production	5,398,000	Metric Tons	
7	Winter wheat production	1,324,000	Metric Tons	
8	Sugarbeet production	689,000	Metric Tons	
8	Crops cash receipts, 2001	3,402,349,000	Dollars	

<sup>1</sup> Planted for all purposes. \* Record high.

# Nebraska Livestock and Poultry Summary

## Highlights

- \* 2 of every 3 farms have sales of livestock, poultry, and products.
- \* Cash receipts from livestock, poultry, and products accounted for about 64% of total cash receipts in 2001.
- \* National rank among States (Number and Date):
  - 1st - Commercial red meat production (7.6 billion lbs. 2002)
  - 1st - Commercial cattle slaughter (7.9 million - 2002)
  - 2nd - Cattle on feed (2.26 million - 1/03)
  - 3rd - Cattle & calves (6.2 million - 1/03)
  - 3rd - Fed cattle marketed, 1000+ lots (4.6 million - 2002)
  - 3rd - Livestock cash receipts (\$6.1 billion - 2001)
  - 4th - Beef cows (1.93 million - 1/03)
  - 5th - Hogs & pigs (2.95 million - 12/02)
  - 6th - Commercial Hog slaughter (6.9 million - 2002)
  - 6th - Calves born (1.82 million - 2002)
  - 12th - Chickens (13.7 million - 12/02)
  - 14th - Honey production (3.23 million lbs. - 2002)
  - 18th - Sheep & lambs (89,000 - 1/03)

## Livestock Record Highs to Date

Commodity	Number	Mo./Yr.
Cattle & Calves	7.41 million head	1/74
Cattle on Feed	2.55 million head	1/01
Fed Cattle Marketed	5.185 million head	2000
Milk Cows	820 thousand head	1/34
Hogs & Pigs	5.98 million head	1/24
Sheep & Lambs	1.26 million head	1/43
Chickens	19.9 million head	1/44

## Livestock Inventories, Selected Years

Year	All Cattle Jan. 1	Beef Cows Jan. 1	Milk Cows Jan. 1	Hogs & Pigs Dec. 1	All Sheep Jan. 1	All Chickens Dec. 1
<i>1,000 Head</i>						
1970	6,330	1,915	175	3,691	377	5,230
1980	6,400	1,950	120	3,900	210	4,000
1990	5,700	1,760	100	4,300	177	6,200
1997	6,650	1,941	69	3,500	95	12,126
1998	6,750	1,940	70	3,400	100	13,219
1999	6,700	1,978	72	3,000	105	13,846
2000	6,650	1,974	76	3,050	102	13,895
2001	6,600	1,945	75	2,900	114	13,704
2002	6,400	1,932	68	2,950	101	13,679
2003	6,200	1,934	66		89	

## Commercial Cattle & Hog Slaughter, Selected Years

Year	Coml. Cattle Slaughter		Coml. Hog Slaughter	
	1,000 Head	NE % of U.S.	1,000 Head	NE % of U.S.
1970	4,338	12.4	2,566	3.0
1980	5,612	16.6	4,581	4.8
1990	5,882	17.7	5,401	6.3
1996	7,293	19.9	5,718	6.2
1997	7,408	20.4	5,776	6.3
1998	7,300	20.6	6,286	6.2
1999	7,436	20.6	6,356	6.3
2000	7,617	21.0	6,270	6.4
2001	7,694	21.8	6,681	6.8
2002	7,862	22.0	6,945	6.9

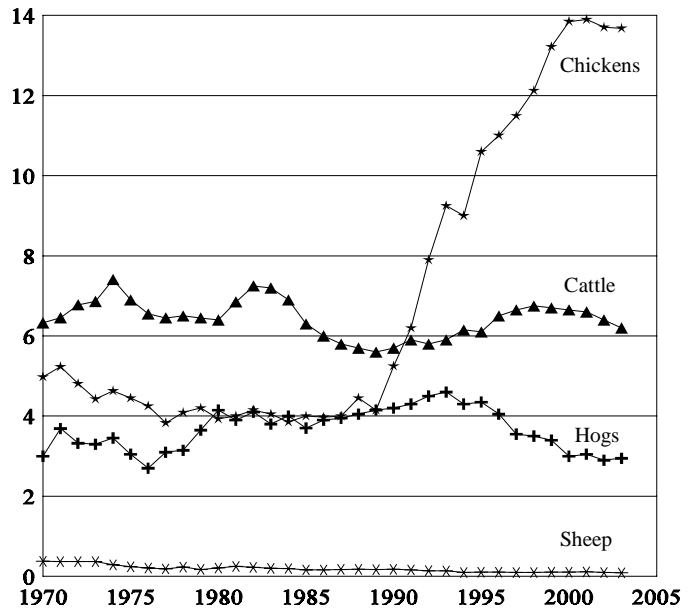
## Number of Operations with Livestock, 1993-2002

Year	Cattle	Beef <sup>1</sup> Cows	Milk <sup>1</sup> Cows	Hogs	Sheep	Cattle Feedlots <sup>1</sup>	
						All	1000+
Number							
1993	29,000	23,000	2,300	11,500	2,200	6,000	600
1994	29,000	23,000	2,000	11,000	1,700	5,700	650
1995	28,000	23,000	1,800	10,000	1,700	5,600	655
1996	28,000	23,000	1,600	8,500	1,700	5,400	670
1997	28,000	23,000	1,500	6,500	1,700	5,100	665
1998	29,000	23,000	1,400	5,900	1,700	5,000	665
1999	28,000	23,000	1,300	5,000	1,700	5,020	685
2000	27,000	23,000	1,200	4,000	1,700	5,200	695
2001	26,000	22,000	1,100	3,400	1,600	5,100	720
2002	25,000	22,000	1,000	2,900	1,500	5,000	740

<sup>1</sup> Included in number of cattle operations.

## Trends in Livestock and Poultry Inventories

*Million Head*



## Number of Livestock Slaughter Plants, F.I. Cattle & Hog Slaughter, Selected Years

Year	Slaughtering Plants			Cattle		Hogs	
	F.I.	Other	Total	Plants	Head	Plants	Head
<i>Number</i>							
1980	72	159	231	67	5,607	46	4,532
1990	49	140	189	47	5,834	36	5,348
1996	43	86	129	39	7,333	28	5,752
1997	40	84	124	36	7,470	24	5,836
1998	39	78	117	33	7,254	22	6,235
1999	34	82	116	29	7,394	20	6,311
2000	33	81	114	32	7,592	22	6,252
2001	34	78	112	32	7,649	23	6,643
2002	35	76	111	31	7,808	22	6,900
2003	34	69	103				

F.I. - Federally Inspected.

## Cattle in Nebraska

- \* In 2001, cash receipts total \$5.1 billion, or 53% of the State's total agricultural receipts.
- \* Account for about 6.5% of the Nation's cattle herd, 5.9% of the Nation's beef cow herd, and 17.5% of the Nation's cattle on feed.
- \* Central and western feeding expanding:  
In 1954, 75% of cattle were placed in eastern one-third of State. Recently, less than 40% of the fed cattle were placed in eastern lots.
- \* Feeding more cattle in fewer feedlots:  
In 1962, operators of 24,303 lots marketed 1.8 million fed cattle.  
In 2002, only 5,000 lots marketed 4.9 million.
- \* Commercial cattle slaughter totaled about 7.9 million head in 2002 and 22% of U.S. total cattle slaughter.

## Cattle Statistics, Selected Years

Year	All Cattle & Calves	All Cows	Calf Crop	All Cattle on Feed
<i>1,000 Head</i>				
1960	5,072	1,855	1,689	
1970	6,330	2,090	2,006	1,477
1980	6,400	2,070	1,970	1,680
1990	5,700	1,860	1,730	2,060
1999	6,700	2,050	1,860	2,240
2000	6,650	2,050	1,840	2,440
2001	6,600	2,020	1,820	2,550
2002	6,400	2,000	1,820	2,370
2003	6,200	2,000		2,260

## Cattle Placed in Feedlots and Percent by Areas, Selected Years

Item or Area	1954 <sup>1</sup>	1964	1974	1984	1994 <sup>2</sup>	1997 <sup>2</sup>	1998 <sup>2</sup>	1999 <sup>2</sup>	2000 <sup>2</sup>	2001 <sup>2</sup>	2002 <sup>2</sup>
<i>1,000 Head</i>											
Nebraska Annual Cattle Placed	1,065	2,441	3,551	4,660	4,319	4,690	4,510	5,110	5,105	4,540	4,640
<i>Percent of Total Placed</i>											
NE, E & SE	74.8	68.6	64.5	50.1	44.4	39.7	38.3	39.6	39.7	39.9	40.8
Rest of State	25.2	31.4	35.5	49.9	55.6	60.3	61.7	60.4	60.3	60.1	59.2

<sup>1</sup> Series started in 1954. <sup>2</sup> Estimates for lots with 1,000+ head capacity only. **NOTE:** 2001 & 2002 preliminary.

## Percent of Fed Cattle Marketed by Capacity of Feedlots, Selected Years

Feedlot Capacity	1962 <sup>1</sup>	1964	1974	1984	1994	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<i>Percent of Total Marketed</i>											
Under 1,000 head	72.6	61.4	39.6	30.1	12.8	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.1
1,000-8,000 head	19.7	26.7	31.5	29.8	35.5	35.5	35.1	34.2	35.1	35.7	36.7
8,000-32,000 head	7.7	11.9	20.7	28.0	40.5	45.3	44.4	46.5	46.9	45.5	44.2
32,000+ head			8.2	12.1	11.2	13.3	15.0	13.6	12.2	12.6	13.0
Total Marketed											
All Lots (000)	1,822	2,436	3,355	4,220	4,715	4,710	4,700	5,060	5,185	4,875	4,910

<sup>1</sup> Series started in 1962.

## Hogs and Pigs in Nebraska

- \* December 1, 2002 hog numbers totaled 2.95 million head, up 2% from the 2.9 million December 1, 2001.
- \* Cash receipts in 2001 totaled \$711 million or about 7.5% of the State's total agricultural receipts.
- \* Account for about 5.0% of the Nation's hog herd.
- \* Commercial hog slaughter increased to 6.9 million head in 2002 and 6.9% of U.S. total hog slaughter.

## Poultry in Nebraska

- \* Chicken inventory totaled 13.7 million head on December 1, 2002, down slightly from December 1, 2001.
- \* In 2001, cash receipts for chicken eggs were \$95 million, 1% of the State's total agricultural receipts.
- \* Egg production has more than doubled since 1990.
- \* Broiler production increased to 3.7 million head in 2002.
- \* Nebraska ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in 2002 for table egg production.

## Hogs and Pigs Statistics, Selected Years

Year	December 1 Inventory	Annual Sows Farrowed <sup>1</sup>	Litter Rate <sup>1</sup>	Annual Pig Crop <sup>1</sup>
<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Number</i>		<i>1,000 Head</i>
1960	2,527	565	7.03	3,972
1970	3,691	815	7.19	5,862
1980	3,900	853	7.36	6,290
1990	4,300	865	7.98	6,900
1999	3,000	640	8.64	5,528
2000	3,050	625	8.84	5,525
2001	2,900	620	8.75	5,425
2002	2,950	675	8.96	6,050

<sup>1</sup> December previous year - November current year.

## Poultry Statistics, Selected Years

Year	Eggs Prod.	Chickens Dec. 1 <sup>1</sup>	Broiler Prod. <sup>2</sup>	Chickens Sold <sup>2</sup>
<i>Million</i>		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
1960	1,843	10,425	2,175	4,798
1970	858	5,230	1,371	2,398
1980	847	4,000	2,000	1,600
1990	1,202	6,200	2,950	1,345
1999	2,837	13,846	11,500	5,182
2000	2,999	13,895	3,400	6,193
2001	3,001	13,704	3,400	4,830
2002	2,977	13,679	3,700	5,161

<sup>1</sup> Excludes commercial broilers. <sup>2</sup> December previous year - November current year.

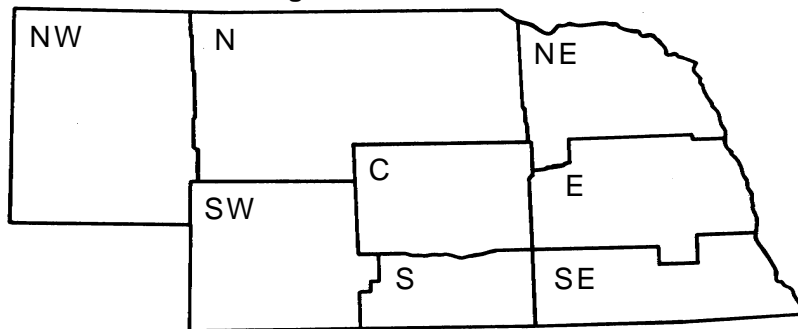
### Nebraska's Top Ten Producing Counties, Selected Commodities, 2002

Rank	Corn for Grain		Soybeans		Winter Wheat		Sorghum for Grain	
	District	County	District	County	District	County	District	County
1	E	Hamilton	E	Saunders	NW	Cheyenne	SE	Gage
2	E	York	NE	Antelope	NW	Box Butte	SE	Nuckolls
3	C	Hall	S	Phelps	SW	Perkins	SE	Saline
4	C	Dawson	E	York	S	Furnas	SE	Thayer
5	S	Phelps	E	Hamilton	SW	Hitchcock	SE	Jefferson
6	SW	Lincoln	SE	Fillmore	SW	Red Willow	SE	Fillmore
7	S	Kearney	E	Platte	NW	Deuel	S	Webster
8	E	Platte	NE	Madison	SW	Frontier	SE	Clay
9	SE	Fillmore	E	Dodge	SW	Chase	S	Furnas
10	C	Custer	NE	Cuming	NW	Kimball	E	Seward

Rank	Oats for Grain		Sunflowers		All Cattle and Calves January 1, 2002		Beef Cows January 1, 2002	
	District	County	District	County	District	County	District	County
1	NE	Knox	SW	Perkins	N	Cherry	N	Cherry
2	NE	Cedar	NW	Kimball	C	Custer	N	Holt
3	NE	Thurston	NW	Sheridan	C	Dawson	C	Custer
4	N	Holt	NW	Cheyenne	N	Holt	SW	Lincoln <sup>1</sup>
5	NE	Dixon	NW	Scotts Bluff	NE	Cuming	NW	Sheridan <sup>1</sup>
6	NE	Wayne	SW	Hayes	SW	Lincoln	C	Dawson
7	SE	Gage	SW	Red Willow	NW	Scotts Bluff	NE	Knox
8	SE	Nuckolls	NW	Deuel	S	Phelps	C	Buffalo <sup>2</sup>
9	NE	Pierce	NW	Box Butte	NW	Sheridan	SW	Frontier <sup>2</sup>
10	E	Colfax	SW	Keith	NW	Morrill	N	Rock <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tied for 4<sup>th</sup>. <sup>2</sup> Tied for 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Nebraska's Agricultural Statistics Districts



### Nebraska's Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates, Selected Crops <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Barley, Spring	Mar 20	Mar 25 - Apr	Apr 18	Jul 18	Jul 20 - Jul 25	Jul 30
Beans, Dry	May 26	Jun 9 - Jun 16	Jun 23	Sep 8	Sep 15 - Sep	Oct 13
Corn, for Grain	Apr 21	May 3 - May	Jun 1	Sep 21	Oct 11 - Nov 6	Dec 1
Corn, for Silage	Apr 21	May 3 - May	Jun 1	Aug 25	Sep 5 - Sep 25	Oct 10
Hay, Alfalfa				May 10		Oct 5
Hay, Other				Jun 5		Sep 20
Oats, Spring	Mar 24	Apr 2 - Apr 27	May 9	Jul 4	Jul 15 - Aug 2	Aug 12
Rye	Aug 30	Sep 12 - Sep	Oct 6	Jun 30	Jul 12 - Jul 30	Aug 8
Sorghum, for	May 11	May 20 - Jun 8	Jun 19	Sep 19	Oct 8 - Oct 30	Nov 17
Sorghum, for	May 11	May 20 - Jun 8	Jun 19	Aug 25	Sep 10 - Sep	Oct 10
Soybeans	May 9	May 18 - Jun 4	Jun 17	Sep 19	Sep 30 - Oct 15	Oct 27
Sugarbeets	Apr 1	Apr 10 - Apr	May 5	Oct 5	Oct 10 - Oct 30	Nov 5
Wheat, Winter	Aug 30	Sep 12 - Sep 26	Oct 6	Jun 26	Jul 7 - Jul 26	Aug 8

<sup>1</sup> Source: USDA's Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates for U.S. Field Crops, December 1997.

**Nebraska Precipitation Data  
by Agricultural Statistics Districts, 1982-2001 <sup>1</sup>**

Year	Agricultural Statistics Districts							
	Northwest	North	Northeast	Central	East	Southwest	South	Southeast
<i>Inches</i>								
1982	21.21	25.63	34.19	27.81	39.01	23.60	26.72	35.78
1983	18.29	27.04	30.45	25.65	32.20	18.96	25.62	31.81
1984	15.35	24.40	36.34	31.33	36.59	21.12	24.51	34.89
1985	14.65	21.03	26.35	27.73	29.88	18.87	26.07	30.26
1986	20.11	27.12	32.72	25.02	38.34	17.91	22.46	38.63
1987	18.09	24.06	26.40	28.26	32.59	22.32	29.23	37.80
1988	16.92	23.41	20.70	22.13	20.15	20.32	20.53	18.38
1989	11.92	13.44	17.20	20.38	22.26	16.17	20.93	24.49
1990	16.59	21.11	25.60	22.79	27.31	17.13	23.17	26.57
1991	16.70	21.41	26.24	23.03	30.32	21.19	21.57	26.61
1992	17.11	24.34	33.76	24.94	31.87	22.10	24.70	37.17
1993	21.80	28.72	35.72	34.02	39.71	27.05	38.64	48.25
1994	14.07	22.79	27.12	23.24	26.83	19.24	23.47	26.32
1995	20.48	28.78	32.24	24.33	24.87	20.31	23.36	29.21
1996	18.61	23.13	27.61	26.31	30.79	24.86	32.02	34.91
1997	18.00	21.47	22.17	23.39	25.45	19.00	22.78	30.59
1998	19.56	26.73	33.52	25.29	34.31	18.65	23.68	34.36
1999	18.53	21.24	27.63	25.27	30.48	21.77	25.00	27.16
2000	17.37	19.47	23.31	20.36	23.83	17.43	22.76	24.76
2001	16.67	25.44	31.93	23.63	28.07	20.06	25.95	38.86

<sup>1</sup> Source: NOAA/National Climatic Data Center.

**Number of Days Temperature 95 Degrees Fahrenheit or Above  
by Agricultural Statistics Districts, Selected Reporting Stations, May-September, 1982-2001 <sup>1</sup>**

Year	Agricultural Statistics Districts, Reporting Station							
	Northwest (Alliance)	North (Atkinson)	Northeast (Hartington)	Central (Broken Bow)	East (David City)	Southwest (Culbertson)	South (Franklin)	Southeast (Pawnee City)
<i>Number of Days</i>								
1982	10	10	11	9	8	16	13	13
1983	13	14	25	14	29	51	39	42
1984	4	18	5	12	15	29	23	25
1985	11	10	3	13	9	24	21	14
1986	8	10	2	14	6	19	16	16
1987	19	13	14	16	19	27	11	20
1988	23	25	23	14	25	28	28	35
1989	18	11	14	6	11	20	9	19
1990	14	15	12	15	10	35	13	27
1991	14	22	15	13	14	21	19	30
1992	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
1993	0	2	0	0	1	6	2	9
1994	18	1	1	3	2	23	12	17
1995	26	17	14	7	13	33	23	19
1996	6	0	0	0	0	9	5	7
1997	18	12	2	5	5	24	20	13
1998	10	9	1	6	2	25	22	5
1999	17	11	4	2	3	20	15	25
2000	25	22	8	15	12	51	46	18
2001	17	11	2	6	15	46	25	11

<sup>1</sup> Source: High Plains Climate Center, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## Nebraska Agriculture Economics

**Nebraska All Land Average Value per Acre  
by Statistical District, Selected Years**

District	Selected Years						
	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002
Northwest	239	250	269	275	276	274	284
North	226	251	275	285	299	312	318
Northeast	790	860	962	1,052	1,070	1,107	1,191
Central	693	744	833	859	842	854	901
East	1,217	1,378	1,600	1,718	1,737	1,747	1,766
Southwest	346	384	417	439	464	471	494
South	885	944	1,066	1,099	1,056	1,060	1,082
Southeast	845	925	1,057	1,111	1,121	1,143	1,213
State	531	582	654	690	698	709	737

Source: Nebraska Farm Real Estate Market Developments 2001-02, Department of Agricultural Economics, UNL, June 2002.

**Prices Received by Nebraska Farmers,  
Selected Years <sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	1970	1980	1990	2000	2001	2002
Corn, Bu.	1.25	3.08	2.28	1.90	1.94	2.40
Soybeans, Bu.	2.78	7.25	5.59	4.44	4.19	5.35
Sorghum, Cwt.	1.93	5.09	3.66	3.28	3.23	4.45
All Wheat, Bu.	1.22	3.82	2.53	2.61	2.75	3.70
Oats, Bu.	.65	1.85	1.19	1.42	1.59	1.95
All Hay, Ton	21.00	55.00	58.00	69.50	70.50	85.50
Sugarbeets, Ton	14.80	47.00	40.10	29.20	36.90	
Dry Beans, Cwt.	8.00	26.90	16.90	15.80	18.50	19.20
Steers &						
Heifers, Cwt.	29.10	66.70	80.00	70.00	73.60	69.10
Cows, Cwt.	20.50	45.80	52.00	38.40	40.20	36.00
Calves, Cwt.	35.30	78.70	100.00	106.00	108.00	100.00
Hogs, Cwt.	22.30	38.10	54.80	44.30	46.30	36.60
Sheep, Cwt.	7.30	24.50	21.90	34.60	34.50	27.40
Lambs, Cwt.	27.50	64.30	54.00	76.20	61.20	73.60
Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>	298	1,130	1,130	1,290	1,470	1,620

<sup>1</sup>Crops prices for 1980 are season average prices; beginning 1985 prices are marketing year average prices received. 2001 preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Calendar year average, dollars per head.

### Grain Storage Capacity

Commercial off-farm grain storage capacity of the 508 licensed storage facilities totaled 690.4 million bushels on December 1, 2002. On-farm capacity was estimated at 970 million bushels on December 1, 2002, compared with 1 billion bushels on December 1, 2001.

**Grain Storage Capacity: Off-Farm, by District  
Nebraska & United States, 2001-2002**

District	Storage Capacity <sup>1</sup>		Net Change	2002 2001
	12/1/01	12/1/02		
	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Northwest	36,589	38,572	1,983	105
North	19,781	16,464	-3,317	83
Northeast	74,331	80,985	6,654	109
Central	57,958	56,173	-1,785	97
East	221,766	224,274	2,508	101
Southwest	64,886	64,967	81	100
South	105,137	101,928	-3,209	97
Southeast	109,708	107,042	-2,666	98
Nebraska	690,156	690,405	249	100
United States	8,424,395	8,506,131	81,736	101

<sup>1</sup> Licensed commercial storage, including temporary facilities licensed for use this year.

**Nebraska Total Farm Income, 1993-2001**

Year	Gross Income <sup>1</sup>	Farm Production Expenses	Net Farm Income	Net Farm Income Per Farm
	<i>Million Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	
1993	9,805.6	7,807.9	1,997.7	35,673
1994	9,917.6	7,748.0	2,169.6	38,743
1995	9,589.3	7,938.9	1,650.3	29,470
1996	11,629.0	8,188.1	3,441.0	61,446
1997	10,973.8	8,959.3	2,014.6	36,629
1998	10,604.5	8,819.4	1,785.1	32,457
1999	10,716.8	9,029.2	1,687.6	30,684
2000	10,897.9	9,540.8	1,357.1	25,132
2001	11,614.8	10,004.5	1,610.3	30,383

<sup>1</sup> See table below for detailed breakdown, including inventory adjustment.

**Nebraska Gross Farm Income, 1993-2001**

Year	Cash Receipts	Government Payments	Non-Cash Income	Farm-Related Income	Value of Inventory Adjustment
	<i>Million Dollars</i>				
1993	8,871.3	806.3	172.1	348.3	-392.3
1994	8,509.2	348.2	190.2	350.3	519.7
1995	8,983.0	507.3	203.7	421.2	-525.9
1996	9,241.4	388.7	221.0	451.1	1,326.8
1997	9,805.0	454.5	213.5	486.2	14.6
1998	9,016.5	814.7	216.3	614.4	-57.4
1999	8,388.2	1,411.9	218.3	642.5	56.0
2000	8,992.5	1,407.0	226.0	590.6	-318.2
2001	9,488.6	1,297.6	234.2	664.0	-69.5

**Value of Nebraska Agricultural Exports, 1997-2001**

Commodity	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
	<i>Million Dollars</i>				
Feed Grains & Products	1,047.4	742.0	841.7	739.9	612.2
Soybeans & Products	526.6	482.3	392.4	452.5	429.8
Wheat & Products	131.6	88.1	119.6	122.1	96.2
Feeds & Fodders	230.5	210.1	206.3	206.1	254.4
Seeds	39.1	29.9	30.6	30.4	23.9
Vegetables & Preparations	27.5	32.8	25.2	37.0	37.3
Live Animals & Meat	733.2	749.4	775.3	939.1	893.5
Hides & Skins	313.2	253.0	207.1	268.5	379.8
Fats, Oils & Greases	99.9	126.8	108.5	80.3	63.2
Dairy Products	13.8	15.0	16.2	16.6	16.7
Other	91.6	84.5	81.3	86.9	107.5
Total	3,254.5	2,814.0	2,804.4	2,979.7	2,914.6

### A Bit of Agricultural Statistics Office History

The Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service is a Federal-State cooperative effort of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. A Federal statistics program dates back to 1862 when USDA was founded. This Nebraska cooperative office has been in existence since 1918. It is located in Room 298 of the Federal Building in Lincoln at 100 Centennial Mall North. The office has had three different names: State-Federal Division of Agricultural Statistics (1918-1976), Nebraska Crop and Livestock Reporting Service (1976-1986), and the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (1986 to date). While the office name has changed and survey procedures improved upon, the objective of providing the most accurate and reliable agricultural forecasts and estimates possible has remained unchanged throughout the years. "Voluntary" reporting by many thousands of farmers, ranchers and agri-business firms make these estimates possible in a timely manner.